

The Times Dispatch

DAILY-WEEKLY-SUNDAY.

send back a good report, that others may follow.

The Surrender at Yorktown.

This is a glorious anniversary in the history of America. On the 18th day of October, 1781, the terms of capitulation were signed under which Lord Cornwallis surrendered to General George Washington, commander-in-chief of the continental armies.

It was a glorious victory. It was a glorious triumph for American arms, whereby our independence was achieved and the greatest republic in the world's history established. But that was by no means all. The American revolution revolutionized the world and started an influence which has swept over the whole earth. First of all it revolutionized great Britain herself, and determined for her a new policy toward her colonies in other lands, a policy under which each and all of her foreign possessions were given a form of self-government. It was under that policy, so wisely and beneficently pursued, that Great Britain has been able to retain her colonies and make them, in spirit as well as in name, part and parcel of the British empire. Great Britain caught the spirit of her liberty-loving children in America, and since then she has vied with the United States in promoting liberty at home and abroad. Through the goodness—and we may not say "cooperative"—work of these two friendly powers, the American idea has spread and spread and continued to spread until it has dominated all Europe, save Russia, and is growing apace over there, and until now has dominated Japan and gained a footing in China and the Philippine Islands.

It is an interesting coincidence that the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the surrender at Yorktown should fall so close to our Jamestown tercentenary celebration, for, after all, the seeds of Americanism were sown at Jamestown, two hundred years before our independence was achieved. Looking back over it all, it does seem that there was a divinity which shaped it all.

"The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong," said the Wise Man, "but time and chance happeneth to them all." Somebody has said that this being interpreted, means luck.

During the siege at Yorktown an epidemic broke out in the British camp, and 2,000 of the 7,000 men under Cornwallis were soon in the hospital. As a last resort Cornwallis determined to leave his sick behind, cross the river at night to Gloucester, attack the French there, then push northward to New York. A part of his army had actually crossed when a storm drove the boats downstream. It took until daylight to recover them, when the troops which had been carried over were brought back, and all hope of escape abandoned.

This may have been luck—but luck for the British and good luck for us—but the story reads very like some of the Old Testament stories of Israel's deliverance from its enemies—under the providential interference and direction of Israel's God.

The Income Tax.

One of our Southern contemporaries rates, as though it were an exceptional case, that South Carolina has an income tax law, and that it is enforced. The law requires the payment of one per cent on amounts over \$2,500 of net income; one-and-one-half per cent on accounts above \$5,000, and two per cent on amounts above \$10,000.

Virginia has had for years an income tax law, which, in our opinion, is better than the South Carolina law. We impose a straight one per cent tax on all net incomes over and above \$2,500, and every tax-payer is required under law to file his income each year, and to swear to the return. The law is not enforced as strictly as it should be in some sections of the State, but there has been gradual improvement, and Virginia is receiving a considerable sum in taxes from that source. The income tax is an eminently just tax, in fact the most equitable tax of all. A man may own property which yields him no revenue whatsoever, yet he must pay taxes on the assessed value, in which event the State takes that which the tax-payer has not. But the income tax collected is simply a part of the actual revenue, which every man derives from his labor and his investments. If he receives an income above \$2,500, he pays the State a portion of it; if he has no income above \$2,500, he pays nothing on that account.

Cortelyou, not Meyer, may get the Treasury portfolio next. Cortelyou has been big-holder for Republican campaign committees, and is therefore more used to handling the big money.

Prosecution is one thing; persecution is another, and it hurts to watch the way the powerful common people are mistreating a weak and defenseless little entity like Standard Oil.

Though the Weightman fortune was made in quinine, most persons would be willing to take a liberal dose of it at bedtime most any night.

If the plan to give higher salaries to postal employees goes through, no doubt we can hope to get our special delivery to the same week.

Mr. Harrison is in peculiar position to understand the maxim which asserts that the biggest fish is the one never landed.

Bowen is having a great meeting of "temperance women." Always supposed that all of them were temperance.

Cuba might spend her \$100,000 surplus for a new Capitol like Pennsylvania's, but what's the use?

"Castro is better," says a contemporary. Than who?

Up in Toms River, N. J., they are singing: "Oh, the Broadway! The Broadway!"

home, on our own soil, under our own flag, in the enjoyment of all his constitutional and political rights, our noblest citizen.

Mr. Foraker was wrong in his premisses. Isotol as we may, we did not lift the negro race out of its degradation to a plane of political equality with all other citizens. The government attempted to do so, but it was a task impossible. The negro race had just emerged from slavery, had no training whatsoever in the art of government, and we might as well have undertaken to change the phenomenon of gravitation by legislation as to make the negro race the equal, political or otherwise, of the white race, by constitutional amendment. Neither Mr. Foraker, nor Mr. Roosevelt, nor anybody has intimated that the Filipinos, who are now our subjects, can be lifted by legislation out of their degradation to a plane of political equality with all American citizens. Our task has been and is to teach and train them, and they will never be clothed with the full rights of American citizenship until they have shown themselves capable.

All attempts by lynching or other forms of violence" continued Mr. Foraker, "to reduce the negro to a servile condition will be found, if persisted in, as odious to the American people of this day as was slavery to the American people of 1860."

But there are no such attempts. Mr. Foraker himself refutes his own contention when he says that the negro owns more than \$200,000 worth of property. There is no attempt, certainly not in Virginia, to enslave the negro, or to prevent him from accumulating property and improving himself. At great expense to the whites we are educating the negro children, and every negro in Virginia is as secure in his property rights as any white man. We go farther, and say that all respectable negroes in Virginia are treated with respect and consideration, and even in a political way, every negro who has the qualifications of age and residence may register and vote upon precisely the same terms that apply to the whites. It is the bad negro and the bad negro only who is making the negro problem and who is provoking the whites to mob violence.

The Blackstone Courier now appears in twelve-page form, and is otherwise much improved, which is to say a great deal, for the Courier was already a fine paper. The Times-Dispatch heartily congratulates the Courier, but more emphatically congratulates the county of Nottoway and towns of Blackstone on having such an able, enterprising and loyal newspaper.

The Blackstone Courier is gratified to hear that Bostock's aggregation of wild animals is likely to winter again in Richmond. The show is entertaining and instructive, and when it was here several winters ago furnished an unending source of amusement and entertainment.

Rev. Dr. Charles Parkhurst is complaining bitterly of the widespread prevalence of vice, immorality and gambling" in New York. This is doltish nuns to Pittsburgh, who has urged all along that she was not the only one.

According to the Washington Post, a Baltimore judge let a manslaughter prisoner off with a ten-cent fine. This puts Baltimore a nos. ahead of Little Rock, Ark., where anybody can go and sue the Governor at 11 a.m.

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